



FEMA

MINUTES OF THE FEDERAL INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (FICEMS)

DATE & TIME:	March 3, 2005 10:30 a.m.
LOCATION:	FEMA, National Emergency Training Center (NETC) Building J, Room 138 16825 South Seton Ave Emmitsburg, MD
MEMBER AGENCY REPRESENTATION:	Department of Homeland Security <i>Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)</i> Mr. John Brasko, Acting Chairman United States Fire Administration Ms. Cathy Broughton United States Fire Administration Mr. Bill Troup United States Fire Administration
	Department of Agriculture No Representation
	Department of Commerce (DOC) Jeannette Young Reese National Technical Information Service (NTIS) Wayne Strickland National Technical Information Service (NTIS)
	Department of Defense (DOD) No Representation
	Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Ms. Nancy Romano, AS Subcommittee Chair National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)*

	<p>Ms. Tina Turgel HRSA,</p> <p>Mr. Terry Mullins* HRSA – Trauma EMS Technical Assistance Center</p>
	<p>Department of Interior No Representation</p>
	<p>Department of Justice (DOJ) No Representation</p>
	<p>Department of Labor No Representation</p>
	<p>Department of Transportation (DOT) Mr. Dave Bryson National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)</p> <p>Ms. Susan McHenry National Highway Traffic Safety Administration</p>
	<p>Department of Veteran Affairs No Representation</p>
	<p>Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) No Representation</p>
	<p>Federal Communications Commission No Representation</p>
	<p>General Services Administration (GSA) No Representation</p>
	<p>USDA Ms. Barb Hodges*</p>

OTHER ATTENDEES PRIVATE SECTOR:	American Ambulance Association Mr. Kurt Krumperman*
	American Integrated Training Systems Mr. Billy Rutherford
	American Society Testing & Materials (ASTM) Mr. Pete Chambers
	Emergency Responder Safety Institute Mr. James Garcia
	Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System Ms. Rene Fechter
	National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) Mr. Joe Robison
	VFSI Mr. Rick Patrick*

**Dial-In Participants*

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS/HANDOUTS

Mr. John Brasko, Acting Chairman, welcomed the group and reminded the members that FICEMS is an information sharing body/committee. The group conducted round-table introductions for the minutes.

Handouts:

- NHTSA Fall 2004 Safety Programs – NHTSA, Ms. Susan McHenry
- NTIS Brochure/Flyer

II. REVIEW OF PAST MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Brasko mentioned the review of the December 2004 meeting minutes. A motion was made to approve them. Motion was passed and the FICEMS minutes from the December 2004 meeting were approved as published.

III. OLD BUSINESS

- All ongoing action items from previous minutes have been reviewed and are complete. Please reference prior minutes for action items and resolution. There were no reports of old business or open action items.

IV. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Ambulance Safety

Ms. Nancy Romano, Chairman – AS Subcommittee - NIOSH, thanked the committee again for moving the subcommittee time slot to the afternoon. Ms. Romano reported that there will be upcoming teleconferences relating to the NHTSA Ambulance Safety National Conference.

V. MEMBER AGENCY REPORTS

NHTSA: Ms. Susan McHenry/Mr. Dave Bryson.

- Ms. McHenry reported on Medical Response for Terrorism which has been fully integrated and now taking it and trying to merge with the online medial director training. The focus is on rural areas.
- NHTSA had a final meeting of EMS Research Priorities, the final report is due out within a few months. This report helps move the industry towards evidence based science.
- Congress passed the Enhance 911 Act of 2004. This will allow upgrades to the system to support and relate to wireless technologies.
- National EMS database location under negotiations, which will begin collecting data from NEMSIS.
- Workforce Project is now underway. There is a cooperative agreement with the University of San Francisco. Rick Patrick attended the initial meeting where they conducted an initial assessment of topics and issues.
- Mr. Dave Bryson provided an update on the Ambulance Safety National Conference. OPM should be making the award within the next 30-60 days.
- EMS Education Agenda is in the public review process. The National EMS community expressed concerns needing Advanced Paramedic Practitioner levels. There will be a task force meeting in Falls Church, VA next week.

For more specific information on ongoing NHTSA projects, please see the attached handout NHTSA Fall 2004.

Emergency Responder Safety Institute: Mr. James Garcia

- Mr. Garcia commented on the issues surrounding licensing vs. certification in the work force. He asked if this will be included on the EMS Education Agenda. Mr. Bryson, NHTSA, answered that it is being considered in the agenda although the federal members expressed that these are issues at the state/local levels.

HRSA – Ms. Tina Turgel

- Nothing to report at this time.

HRSA-EMS Trauma Assistance Center: Mr. Terry Mullins

- Mr. Mullins reported on the HRSA Trauma Systems Program.
- The 2005 Grant Availability is \$40k for most states and \$15k for territories.
- The Annual Grand T meeting was held in February which included discussions on the Model Trauma Systems Planning and Evacuation and the National Trauma Data Standardization Project.
- The Model Trauma now has a state self-assessment (non-benchmark) now available which was released at the Leadership meeting. Three states have been selected for a pilot project using the Model Trauma Systems Planning and Evaluation. The Program will collect information from these pilot projects and from comments sent in by other users of the document. The final version will be released in approximately one year.
- The National Trauma Data Standardization Project is an effort to identify course data elements. State Trauma Managers, Trauma registry and data experts and professional organizations have had input in the process and have submitted comments and suggestions. These comments and suggestions will be evaluated and a revised list of trauma data elements, inclusion/exclusion criteria and value labels will be redistributed before finalization. The goal is to enhance trauma systems data and provide a clearer picture of trauma systems across the country.

USDA: Ms. Barb Hodges

The program most related to FICEMS is the USDA Rule Development Program. This initiative is for 1st Responders using our regular funding with priority scoring for 1st Responders for a total of 24 projects. This project allows for police, fire, 1st Responder equipment, renovations, care centers, criminal justice training etc... For more information, please visit www.rurdev.usda.gov, click on the housing and community section and then click on the rural emergency responders section.

DOC/NTIS: Mr. Wayne Strickland/Jeanette Young-Reese

- Mr. Strickland expressed NTIS's interest in state programs and looking at state profiles and collections. NTIS encourages receipt of these types of programs/training/reports, especially ambulance safety related information.
- Ms. Young-Reese distributed a brochure/handout sharing NTIS's E-learning Initiative for 2005.

USFA: Mr. Bill Troup

- Mr. Troup reported on the second phase of the USFA Emergency Vehicle Safety Initiative where USFA is partnering with the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), and the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) in the development of targeted emergency vehicle safety efforts for their particular constituent groups - chief officers and fire department leadership, the career fire service, and volunteers.
- Another new project is the Study of Emergent Health and Safety Issues for the Volunteer Fire Service in which USFA is partnering with the NVFC.

- USFA is also in the process of updating two USFA publications of interest to the EMS community - Emergency Incident Rehabilitation Manual, and the Firefighter Autopsy Protocol.
- Further information on USFA's activities may be found on the USFA web page: <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/>

USFA: Mr. John Brasko

- Mr. John Brasko reported on an upcoming series of USFA/NHTSA NIMS Train-the-Trainer Programs that will allow states and metros to send fire and EMS instructor's to be trained in NIMS ICS for EMS, NIMS ICS for the Fire Service and Unified Command courses. It is NIMS compliant and will mix fire and EMS.

VI. REPORTS – OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM): Mr. Pete Chambers

Mr. Chambers reported on an upcoming annual conference in Philadelphia, expanding to include DHS standards. Mr. Chambers will have more information at the next meeting as to what elements will fall under this new Homeland Security group.

American Integrated Training Systems (AITS): Mr. Billy Rutherford

Mr. Rutherford mentioned various projects/courses that AITS is working on to include 1) Bystander Care Car/Motorcycles 2) Ambulance Driving in Marshall Islands 3) Wheelchair Vans and 4) DOL workforce connections (www.workforceconnections.gov).

Handout: AITS will be evaluating the wheelchair van area to determine the status of the manufacturing specifications for vans, structural integrity of different types of wheelchairs and the training available for wheelchair van operators.

This is a continuation of a study AITS conducted in 2000 at the request of wheelchair van manufacturers and insurance companies. The U.S. Department of Transportation reported that during 1991-1995, 7,121 wheelchair users were injured or killed by injury producing activity. Of this number 2,494 were injured or killed as a result of improper or no securement and 1,366 because of lift malfunction. Of the 7,121 total, 5,233 wheelchair users injured or killed were over 60 years old.

The 2000 study revealed no federal specification for wheelchair vans, limited training by a wide variety of providers, operators ranged from untrained volunteers to EMTs. Reimbursement rates were not sufficient to cover cost in many cases.

Organizations and individuals may contribute to this study by submitting information to AITS, Inc. ATTN: WCV, 7932 Lake Pleasant Drive, Springfield, VA 22153-2707, or call Billy Rutherford at 703.440.0914 or brutherf@aitstraing.com.

VFIS/CSFI: Mr. Rick Patrick

Mr. Patrick reported that CSFI's Annual Dinner Event is April 7th. The day of the event includes several educational sessions on Capitol Hill specific to EMS especially the EMS Scope of Practice Model. Mr. Patrick asked the members to contact him if they have suggested topics for this event.

Mr. Patrick is also Chairperson for the NAEMT Safety Committee which can be another resource for FICEMS on future topics.

Emergency Responder Safety Institute: Mr. James Garcia

Mr. Garcia reported that ERSI's objective is to reduce deaths and injuries of First Responders through training to include issues such as lighting, staging and public awareness. He'd like ERSI to play a more active role to assist in reducing injuries and public education/awareness.

For more information on tracking statistical data relating to 1st Responder crash and injuries visit www.respondersafety.com. Barbara Reye with NHTSA/MMUCC will be willing to work with others to capture this type of information.

VII. ACTION ITEMS REVIEW

No further review of existing action items, all have been completed for March or are considered closed items.

Review of Action Items from this meeting:

- NATEK will follow-up with Ms. Tina Turgel, HRSA and Mr. Terry Mullins to see if they would like to host the June 2005 meetings (AI).

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Terry Mullins/Ms. Cheryl Anderson/Ms. Blanca Fuertes/Ms. Tina Turgel have offered to co-host the June 2005 FICEMS meetings and will work with NATEK off-line to discuss logistics.

IX. SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS FOLLOWING THIS MEETING

Ambulance Safety Subcommittee meets at 1:00

X. NEXT MEETING

June 2, 2005, 10:30 a.m.

Proposed Location:

Department of Health and Human Services – HRSA
Parklawn Bldg.
Rockville, MD

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

**** Please see the following pages for the handouts provided in this meeting.**